

ON THE REVIEWER'S TABLE

A Certain Rich Man.

By William Allen White. The Macmillan Company, of New York. \$1.50.

The first thing that the reader of William Allen White's new book is conscious of is its Americanism first, last and always.

The book has an early day Kansas setting, or Middle Western, as it is now more usually called. There is in it, from the beginning, a fanatical strain which made the Kansas pioneers of the middle nineteenth century, like the Boers of South Africa, imagine that the land was given solely into their possession by the will of the Lord, and led them to imagine themselves "the hosts that were trampling on" and martyrs in the abolition cause.

Behind the central figure of the book, John Barclay, is the tragedy of his father's death and the widowhood of his mother, a strongly masculine type of Puritan descent and characteristics. The boy is reared in an atmosphere of tumult and bloodshed that ends for him with his running away to take part in the War Between the States and coming home disabled for life. Being of a strong, shrewd and practical nature, in which hereditary traits are repeated, he manages to put money in bank and to go away from his native town to get an education. While he is at school the love of his youth dies.

He returns home and starts at once about the building of his career and the acquisition of his fortune. To attain his desire and he sacrifices all love, all friendship, everything that comes in his way and that he can make use of to help him press forward. His marriage after some years seems to put no curb on his ambition. He runs the whole gamut and reaches the goal of success after he has caused much unhappiness to others. Then his eyes are opened and he makes what restitution he can; he gives up money dishonestly gotten and begins life poor and honest again.

The book is written leisurely and unhurriedly. It is full to the brim

with people identified with the place where they live, with what happens around them and elsewhere, with what interests and concerns them and their neighbors. Their development and that of John Barclay, the central and dominating character, grows unhurriedly and naturally out of causes calculated to bring it about.

John is ruthless and grasping. He considers only the end he may have in view, and whoever furnishes a means to that end is merely an instrument in his hand. Yet these very people who suffer through him remain loyal, and, instead of seeking revenge, grieve over him and remain silent. Even when he is at his hardest and worst, there is something about him that prevents him from being wholly unattractive, that renders him interesting because he is so real and so human.

In short, it may be said that in this book William Allen White has created a great, striking character, and around this central figure gives us a picture that includes the whole of the Middle West. Every detail of the lives of the people among whom the author has grown up is set down with the sure touch of a keen observer, and with the humor which comes from wide knowledge. "A Certain Rich Man" is the story of a man's whole life, his loves, his ambitions, disappointments, visions, friends and enemies, and this character study, Mr. White's unflinching realism and profound knowledge of the American business man makes as vivid as any in contemporary fiction.

The Auto Boys' Outing.

When it comes to writing books to please boys, it is no exaggeration to say that one can count on the fingers of one hand the authors whose names alone have power to make the boy readers' eyes sparkle for the visions of a good tale well told.

Foremost in this category stands James A. Braden, who has so many book successes to his credit. He first won his reputation as a teller of Indian stories of the time when the Western reserve in the Northwestern Territory was civilization's frontier. Last year he left behind the tomahawk and pipe of peace of the red man and devoted himself to the first volume of "The Auto Boys' Series." Of course, the title itself was sufficient to commend the books to boys, so that with a popular subject and a very popular author, nothing more need be said.

The second volume is now on the presses of The Seaford Publishing Company, Akron, O., and is entitled "The Auto Boys' Outing."

The four young fellows who make the first series so readable figure in the present tale, and the first chapter finds them in their auto on their way to the former home of one of the owners of the "Thirty," although it is more than a deserted farmhouse. Stopping for a roadside lunch, they make the very disconcerting discovery that their license number tag is missing. While deep in a discussion as to the wisest course to pursue, the Auto Boys spy a ragged, unkempt little urchin trotting along in the dusty road waving the tag in the air. Very glad to regain it so easily—though they have grave suspicion that he stole it, as the straps were unbuckled—they give him a ride. Imagine their surprise when, pulling up to a country inn for the night they discover this same youngster hanging on the trunk rack for dear life. He declares he has no home, no parent, no friends, no nothing. These facts and the winsomeness of the lad lead the Auto Boys to make him a member of their party. The wisdom of their course is proven conclusively when, on the last day spent at the farm, the bothersome mystery of the inscription, "papers in stone post," is solved; the strange lad returned to rejoicing parents and the

Auto Boys toot the horn of the "Thirty" in farewell to the farmhouse.

The Quest for the Rose of Sharon.

By Burton E. Stevenson. L. C. Page Company, of Boston. \$1.25.

A particularly well written and interesting story, in which an eccentric great-aunt of the little heroine hides an inheritance in a silk quilt, embroidered with a Rose of Sharon design and leaves the heroine, her mother and brother the difficult task of unraveling the mystery of the hiding place and claiming the treasure trove.

At the very last moment, when despair seems imminent, the clue is found and the little heroine is successful in her long and weary search. The book is one in which young girls specially will be interested.

The Toll of the Sea.

By Roy Norton. D. Appleton & Company, of New York. \$1.50.

The author of "The Vanishing Fleet" has written another romance of the sea, which is full of the power of imagination in the forecasting of future possibilities than even that romance was.

In this book an unaccountable disappearance of American ships after a convulsion of nature which has changed the entire Pacific coast, is caused by the exercise of a tremendous electrical or magnetic force that first renders the ships powerless, and then draws them irresistibly into a harbor on a hitherto unknown coast and in a hitherto unknown southern Pacific region.

The story is constructed with great power of imagination, and shows the same fertility in resource and construction that distinguished "The Vanishing Fleet." It is breathlessly interesting from beginning to ending.

MAGAZINE AND BOOK NOTES.

August Harper.

A charming frontpiece in color, showing the outlook of a man and a maiden "when all the world was young," looks out from the pages of the August Harper, with Howard Pyle's signature to it. Frank Craig is the artist for the pictures illustrating a story, "Apple Tree Cottage," that overflows with the richness and warmth of Elinor MacCartney Lane's vivid imagination and airy grace of touch. A sparkling romance of this August number is the first part of a serial story by Amelle, Princess Troubetzkoy. It is pictured by F. Walter Taylor, and described with a crescent of mountains and the red hills of Alabama as a background for Trix, her heroine, and Over the Moon, a red roan colt, which Trix has set her heart on and purchased, though her colored jockey, Joe, distrustful of this, as of all Orion's pedigree, has warned her against him. The art of a writer who knows and loves her subject is expended in bringing before the reader's mental vision, "Oldwood," "a long, rambling, white house, its old shingle roof, cushioned with moss; Tim, the quaint, seventy-year-old son of Trix; Mr. Parley, the overbearing Scotch woman, who has come to Sidney Bruce as an inheritance from his father, Princess Troubetzkoy has no difficulty in exploiting Trix as the capable and energetic woman of affairs, who dominates the different elements and situations of the story, and holds the reins of guidance in a pair of strong and determined little hands. The story is wonderful in the skill of its characterization, in its flashes of humor, and, above all, in the intense reality of its Virginia atmosphere, which recalls earlier publications by the same gifted writer.

Subject of Essay.

"The Novels of William DeMorgan" was the subject of the essay for the John Hubbard Curtis Prize, just awarded at Yale to H. D. Hammond, of Nashville, Tenn. The Yale Alumni News states that some months ago, when Mr. DeMorgan was in, and the subject of his novel was the subject of the Curtis prize this year, he wrote Professor William Lyon Phelps as follows:

"I took me some minutes after the receipt of your kind letter of full extent of closure to express the full extent of my compliment you have paid me—it has taken me a night's sleep over it (I got it yesterday) to consider how I can express my sense of it. Well—I've given it up as a bad job. I can't!"

A Fiction Number.

The August Scribner opens with a story by Maurice Hewlett that invades the realms of the supernatural and is called "Beckwith's Bay." By Frederick Black, forest ranger, has color pictures by Walter King Stone, with one as the magazine frontpiece. Other excellent short story fiction is contributed by E. W. Hornum, F. Hopkinson Smith, Mary Cholmondeley, Margaret Sherwood, and Katharine Holland Brown. "The Messenger," by Miss Brown, and "The Romance of His Life," by Miss Cholmondeley, deserve special mention for their literary merit. The XXVII, and XXVIII, chapters of Thomas Nelson Page's serial, "John Magwell, Assistant," lend additional interest to a fine tale of contents.

Latin Temperament.

Miss Constance Elizabeth Maud spent last winter in Cuba, and it is possible that she will soon give the world another study of the Latin temperament, utilizing the West Indies for local color. Miss Maud's latest book, "A Daughter of France" (John Lane Company), was a particularly happy study of a French girl transported amid Scotch surroundings and Puritanism. The writer understands the Latin temperament and points of view remarkably well, a point of view which is often very hard for an Anglo-Saxon to grasp. Throughout her book one can feel Miss Maud's keen sympathy and love for her heroine, Jeanne de Clairvaux, and the other French people who figure in her story, and it is because of this love and sympathy that Miss Maud has made them so real.

Rich in Fiction.

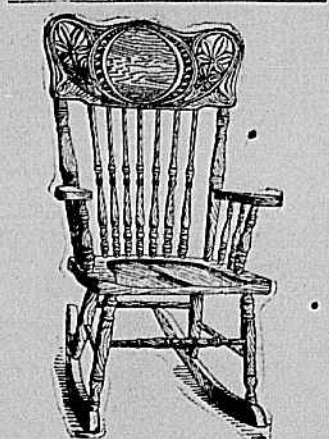
Apart from the regular instalment of Alice MacGowan's "Living of Lance Cleverage," the August number of Putnam's is rich in fiction, for it contains the second instalment of Maurice Hewlett's "Letters to Sanchia," a stirring story of hardship and heroism at sea; "The Dogged Ones," by Dr. W. T. Grenfell, of Labrador; "The Last Straw," one of Eddon Philpott's richly humorous stories of Devonshire village folk; "Old Man Slewin," a character sketch of a Civil War veteran, by Jean D. Franklin; "The Advertisement," a humorous tale of an American widower and his spinster sister in Italy, by Louise Mack,

Astonishing August Bargains in Furniture

New Method Gas Ranges



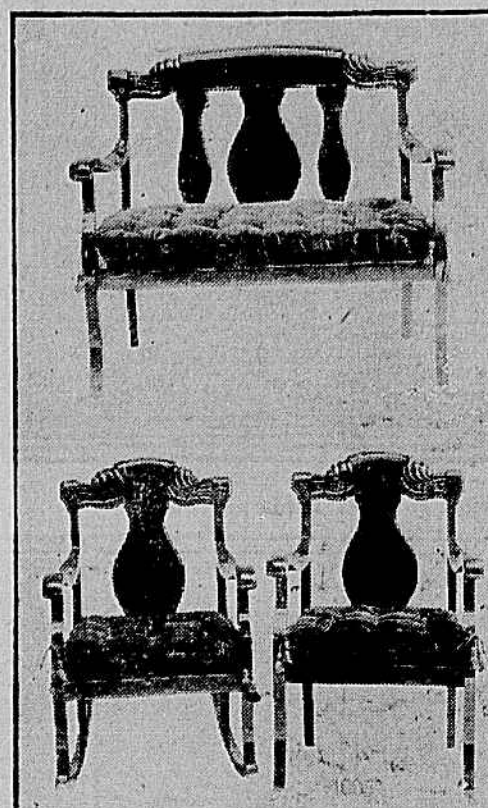
Best by every test. Saves you 25 per cent. in gas bills, cooks perfectly. It has every improvement known in the manufacture of Gas Ranges.



\$1.29 Buys this handsome large size Solid Oak Rocker; worth \$2.50.

August is the month for final clearance—the time of the year when many lines of goods must be sacrificed regardless of value in order to create needed room for immense fall shipments of furniture which are already beginning to arrive.

The following specials will give you an inkling of the many extraordinary bargains.

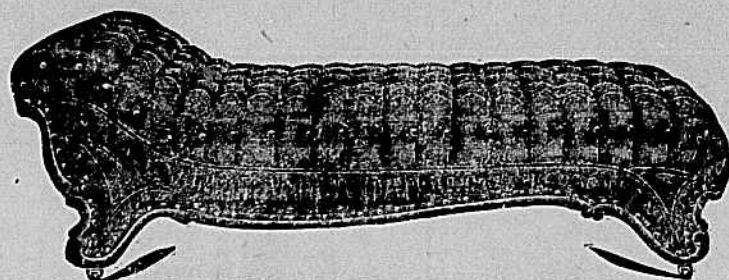


This Elegant 3-Piece Parlor Suit

Heavy massive frames, highly polished, 100% cushion seat, covered in silk plush for

\$18.50

WORTH \$30.00.



\$12.75

Buys This Handsome \$18 Couch

Thirty inches wide, 6 feet long, and covered in Boston leather.

Your Credit is Good

Pettit and Company

FOUSHEE and BROAD STS

Your Credit is Good

The Boone Kitchen Cabinet



Twelve different styles, \$15.00 to \$40.

Kitchen Cupboards

in all styles.

\$7.50 to \$15.

Buy what you want now on credit. The terms of settlement will be arranged to suit your convenience.

Go-Carts and Carriages, 1/3 Off.

Refrigerators 1/3 Off.

Attend the Cleaning-Up Shoe Sale

Ladies' \$4.00 Ties and Pumps, tan black; broken sizes **\$1.95**

Ladies' \$3.00 Patent Tip Oxfords **\$1.50**

Infants' 75c and \$1.00 Slippers, sizes 1 to 3 **25c**

Ladies' White Canvas Oxfords, sizes 2 and 2 1/2, shop worn; \$2.00 value **50c**

Ladies' \$3.00 and \$4.00 Oxfords, sizes 2 and 2 1/2 **95c**

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Debility—for that tired feeling—for building muscle and flesh—nothing excels but few equal.

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But one bottle will demonstrate and a few prove this fact. Order to-day.

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Beach Park, West Point, Va.

Monday, August 9. Trains leave Southern Railway Depot 8 a. m. and 5:30 p. m. Round Trip, 50c.

and "The Little Stenographer's Creed," by Jane Dalziel Wood, the record of a kidnapping adventure of a decidedly novel character.

Denz's Masterpiece.

Under the simple, idyllic title of "The Shadow of the Cathedral," Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Company are issuing an English translation of Vincent Denz's masterpiece, which presents in the form of a vivid, dramatic story, rich with historic interest and human feeling, the present mental and social decadence of Spain.

This is a work entirely out of the ordinary run of fiction. It is a superb presentation of the mind and beliefs of a people, written with profound knowledge and intense conviction, and goes far to reveal to the reader the subterranean fires which are even now so visibly undermining the church and monarchy in Spain.

Stories and Authors.

The August American has the closing letters in a series by G. W. H. who is being much discussed at present, a story written in distinctive style by Jack London, with the Orient for a background, and others by Stewart Edward White and W. J. Locke. Mrs. Wilson Woodrow has written a very discriminating article which she calls "The Fantastic Feminine," and Harvey J. O'Higgins has a sketch with an amount of human interest in it, which he calls "His Mother."

Atlantic Monthly.

The Atlantic Monthly has, as a leader, "Cecily," a short novel, by William J. Hopkins. Elsie Sinigmas is the author of the "Dover Ladies," a short story. Excellent special articles are contributed, among others, by Morris Schaff, in his third paper on "The Battle of the Wilderness," by Annie K. Tuell in her estimate of "George Meredith," by D. Lange, in "The Great tidal Waves of Bird Life," and by Agnes Repplier, in her

paper on "The Customary Correspondent."

Oliver Wendell Holmes.

August 29, being the centenary of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Book News Monthly for the month is a Holmes number, personal reminiscences of the poet and essayist, his place in American letters, the man and his work being contained and described in articles by James Grant Wilson, Annie Russell Marble, Carl Haildall, Charles Henry Chesley and Eugene M. Fryer.

"Brandywine Days," by J. Russell Hayes, is most attractive, and so is a well illustrated article on picturesque Edinburgh, by Norma Bright Carson. An English appreciation of James Lane Allen is taken from the London Academy, and literary notes is slivered by excellent pictures of Eugene Paul Metour, author of "In the Wake of the Green Banner," and of Frank Norris, the latter being a portrait that appears in the recently published "Third Circle." Other departments of the magazine, especially that of book reviews, are full of interest and cleverness.

Who He Is.

"Doubleday, Page & Company have just issued a little booklet, for general distribution, entitled "Who He Is and How He Works." A copy will be sent to any address on request. It is attractively printed in green and black. The publisher's intention is to issue from time to time other booklets dealing with their authors.

Noteworthy Issue.

A half-dozen big, special features make particularly noteworthy the August issue of Recreation, now on sale by all newsdealers. First of all is an article by Dr. James A. Henshall, "The Black Bass: Our Favorite Game Fish." Dr. Henshall is the most noted authority in the world on the life and habits of this popular fish, and his article is bound to create great interest among all sportsmen. "Recreation's Point of View" is devoted to the passing of the picnic grove. "Hunting Big Game at Home," by Brent Allshel, is an intensely interesting story, illustrated from action photographs, of how the author trained for a big wilderness hunting trip, within a few miles of his city residence. Annette Kellerman, the famous swimmer and diver, contributes an article on "Swimming as a Sport for Women." This article is illustrated from wonderful flashlight action photographs, made by W. H. Wallace. "When the Sage Hen Is Worth Shooting" is the title of a character article from the pen of Edwin L. Sablin.

August Contributors.

Ansle's for August has a rich and varied table of contents. Among the contributors are George Barr, McCutcheon, Horace Annesley Vachell, Joseph C. Lincoln, Roy Norton, Clara M. Laughlin, Mary Heaton Vorse, Clara Williams, Vanderheyden Fyles, Jane W. Guthrie, and Gertrude Warden. Arthur Loring Bruce continues his entertaining and instructive articles on bridge whist.

Price-Winning Reviews.

"Doubleday, Page & Company have just published, in pamphlet form, a

eral, free distribution, the prize-winning reviews in the recent review competition on E. F. Benson's new recent book, "The Climber." The same prizes are now announced for the best reviews of Mrs. Humphry Ward's latest novel, "Marriage à la Mode." The publishers will furnish particulars on request.

"The Danger Mark."

Robert W. Chambers' publishers have sent out several notes about a book by him to appear next fall, but have not heretofore mentioned the title. There is nothing strange about that, as it is still some time before the book is expected to appear, and the titles of various books and plays, such as "The Fighting Hope," "The Winning Chance," and "The Fighting Line," show how ready people are to follow where so apt a man as Chambers leads. And the title of the new book is a "corker," one that will bring a satisfied thrill of anticipatory delight to every one of the author's old admirers. It is to be called "The Danger Mark."

"Sixty-Five on Time."

In August "Sixty-Five on Time" will be issued in book form by The Seaford Publishing Company, which, it will be remembered, recently won the prize in a competitive offer made by The Youth's Companion. All the boys—and many of the girls—who missed reading the story in serial form in that paper will wish to enjoy the book, and a large percentage who did have that opportunity will want to read it again, for it is a capital roadshowing tale, full of attraction to the young. Miss Jean K. Baird is the author.

John E. Massey.

The Neale Publishing Company will, on August 1, publish the autobiography of John E. Massey, one of the most prominent Virginia politicians of the nineteenth century. Mr. Massey was called the "Father of Readjusterism" in Virginia, and his book will cover many important years in the history of Virginia politics.

Success Magazine.

In the August number of Success Magazine begins a series of little comedies of commerce under the title, "New Tales of the Road," by Charles N. Crowder. In "She Is an Actress," Mabel Tallafiero cries out against the injustice done her profession by calling all behind the footlights "actresses." Mary Heaton Vorse in the article called "What Women Might Do for Their Towns," points out some duties which every home-loving woman should keep in her heart. "Brer Boll Weevil," by Harris Dickson, is an article which tells of the ruin done cotton and credit by a mere bug. "To Happiness by Trolley," Robert Haven Schuchter shows the economic and social benefits the West has derived from the trolley system. Orison Swett Marden's editorial for the month is "The Strain to Keep Up Appearances."

"Making of Carlyle."

One of the strongest influences in forming the character of Carlyle was undoubtedly his wife, Jane Welsh, as is pointed out by R. S. Craig in his "Making of Carlyle," published recently by John Lane Company. The

book is of special interest in view of the "Love Letters of Thomas Carlyle and Jane Welsh," also recently published by John Lane Company. These love letters shattered many delusions in regard to Carlyle's feeling for his wife. Mr. Craig may be said to adhere strictly to the point of view of an outsider; he gives many anecdotes of Carlyle and the latter's relations with Jane Welsh, and tries to sum up this lady's influence over her lover and husband. The book closes with the publication of the "French Revolution," and the establishing of Carlyle's lasting fame.

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